

16. (Amended) Use of DNA sequence according to claim 1 or a part thereof as diagnostic marker for cell proliferation and/or cell differentiation for hybridization experiments to determine the amount of homologous nucleic acid sequences.

#### REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 3, 4, 6-10, 13, 14 and 16 are amended to delete multiple dependency. No new matter is contained in the amendments.

Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300.

Respectfully submitted,

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**MARKED-UP VERSION OF ORIGINAL CLAIMS**

3. (Amended) Expression vector, characterized in that it contains a DNA sequence according to [any one of claims 1 or 2] claim 1.

4. (Amended) Protein characterized in that it is encoded by a DNA sequence according to [any one of claims 1 or 2] claim 1.

6. (Amended) Protein according to claim 4 [or 5] characterized in that it shows an oocyte maturation inducing activity and/or a cell division modulating activity.

7. (Amended) Protein according to [any one of claims 4 to 6] claim 4, characterized in that it contains deletions, substitutions and/or additions of amino acids that do not substantially affect its activity.

8. (Amended) Protein according to [any one of claims 4 to 7] claim 4, wherein a second protein is fused to build a fusion protein.

9. (Amended) Use of a protein according to [any one of claims 4 to 8] claim 4, for inducing oocyte maturation and/or modulating cell division and/or differentiation and/or proliferation

10. (Amended) Pharmaceutical composition containing as active agent a protein according to [any one of claims 5 to 8] claim 5.

13. (Amended) Use of a protein according to [any one of claims 4 to 8] claim 4, as a diagnostic marker for cell proliferation and/or cell differentiation.

14. (Amended) Use of a protein according to [claims 4 to 8] claim 4 as a target for the identification of drugs that modulate cell cycle progression and/or cell proliferation and/or cell differentiation.

16. (Amended) Use of DNA sequence according to [any one of claims 1 or 2] claim 1 or a part thereof as diagnostic marker for cell proliferation and/or cell differentiation for hybridization experiments to determine the amount of homologous nucleic acid sequences.